The Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare

Volume 41
Issue 2 *June - Austerity Versus Stimulus: International Challenges for Social Welfare*

Article 16

2014

Review of *The Globalization of Supermax Prisons*. Jeffrey Ian Ross (Ed.). Reviewed by Ann Marie Rocheleau.

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paradox and contradictions reshape my future commitment and actions?

Fortunately, institutions, like individuals, can evolve to become anti-racist. The transformation begins with developing a comprehensive understanding of how racism and oppression operate within an organization's own walls. While *The New Black* fails to explicitly identify actions needed to dismantle racism, the analysis laid out in the book should facilitate a commitment to and concrete plans for dismantling racism within the reader's reach and, ultimately, in larger society.

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Jeffrey Ian Ross (Ed.), *The Globalization of Supermax Prisons.* Rutgers University Press (2013). $28.95 (paperback), $72.00 (hardcover).

This book is a fascinating comparative examination of the worldwide proliferation of supermax prisons. It appraises the historical, political, and cultural justifications in each country, including the role of terrorism and increases in crime. Each chapter compares the make-up of that country's supermax population, entrance criteria, conditions of confinement, policies and actual practices, and amenability to public scrutiny. There are myriad journal articles and several books that examine supermax prisons in America or other countries. However, this book fills a scholarly void as a cross-national analysis of the implementation of these controversial facilities and an exploration of policy diffusion and the impact of globalization on correctional policy.

The book begins with Loïc Wacquant's introductory summary of the historical events and consequences of the punitive turn in the American criminal justice system between 1960 and 2000. Ross discusses the importance of examining supermax prisons from a global perspective, studying the patterns of development, implementation, and the extent of cross-pollination. He then summarizes the history of American supermax prisons, their general conditions of confinement and entrance criteria, and the critiques of them. Finally, he ends the book along with Rothe's two chapters on the supermax-like

facilities at Guantanamo Bay and Abu Ghraib, both replete with the rich history of America's war on terror.

Moving out of the U.S., Ross uses secondary data to piece together Canada's continuously changing policies and facilities for housing dangerous prisoners, ending with one supermax for that country. By contrast, O'Day and O'Connor discuss the multitude of maximum security prisons that Mexico uses to incapacitate its most dangerous and escape-prone prisoners. Though these prisons' exteriors appear to be formidable and escape-proof, the rampant corruption in Mexico results in prisons being controlled by their inhabitants, providing a sharp contrast to other countries' incarceration regimes. Filho outlines Brazil's path for addressing prison riots, violence, and gangs that resulted in the creation of a Differentiated Disciplinary Regime for states to implement and the development of a national prison system to incapacitate Brazil's most dangerous criminals.

Switching to Europe, Crews describes Great Britain's lengthy history of addressing both its "security" and "control" issues through many iterations of supermax facilities resembling those in America. However, Great Britain is committed to keeping its supermax population low, addressing the needs of mentally ill inmates, and ensuring transparency through outside review. Resodihardjo explains how the dramatic increase in crime in the Netherlands between 1990 and 1994 resulted in building special security units that failed to deter escapes, and ultimately the creation of one supermax prison for a small number of prisoners that successfully deterred escapes, yet offered prisoners more interaction, activities, and oversight.

Buntman and Muntingh detail the creation of two South African supermaxes modeled on U.S. policies and regimes that appear to be more enlightened compared to their U.S. counterparts, but whose implementation has been marred by the neglect of law, prisoner abuse, and corruption. Brown and Carlton situate Australia's supermaxes as trajectories of its historical roots—operating secondary punishment facilities within its penal colonies or institutions. They delineated three phases of these high-security units in two of their states, explaining the transformation from brutal antiquated facilities to equally harsh but more technologically-oriented

facilities enhanced by inspections and accountability mechanisms. Newbold describes Paremoremo, a maximum security prison opened in New Zealand in 1969 that initially paralleled the path of FCI-Marion but that experienced physical and operational decline due to New Zealand's increasing violence and drug crime.

The book's biggest weakness is the inclusion of the chapters on the conditions of confinement at Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib. While these are fascinating historical accounts of neoconservative practices, including supermax and questionable interrogation techniques, these chapters feel misaligned in this book. Since the U.S. chapter generalizes about supermax practice for the entire country, another chapter or two highlighting specific state supermax prisons would have made for a nice contrast with the detail given about other countries' supermax regimes. However, Ross successfully delivers on his comparative analysis of supermax in nine countries and offers a measured discussion of diffusion and globalization. One is struck by many of the global patterns found: the disproportionate incarceration of minorities; the enormous differences that individual leaders make in successful implementation; and how public scrutiny usually results in improved and more humane conditions of confinement. *The Globalization of Supermax Prison*s is a must-read for any student, practitioner, or scholar of punishment and correctional practices.

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Nina Munk, *The Idealist: Jeffrey Sachs and the Quest to End Poverty.* Doubleday (2013). $15.95 (paperback).

Jeffrey Sachs wants to save the world. More precisely, his goal is to eliminate extreme poverty worldwide in a few decades. Is this a preposterous, Promethean dream? No. It is conceivable, and perhaps feasible: the percentage of the global population living on less than $1.25 per day has fallen by more than half during the past 25 years, actually meeting the Millennium Development Goal set in 2000. However, much of the recent global progress on poverty reduction is accounted